

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN



10-11

ANNUAL REPORT

MINISTRY OF  
AGRICULTURE



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This annual report is also available in electronic format from the ministry's website at [www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca](http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca).





## Letters of Transmittal



July 2011

His Honour  
The Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart  
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

May it please Your Honour:

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to delivering and building on its promises to Saskatchewan people. One of those promises is a commitment to increased transparency and accountability.

The 2010-11 Annual Report demonstrates progress towards the commitments that relate to this Ministry as of March 31, 2011.

The initiatives pursued in 2010-11, and the results achieved, are communicated to the legislature and to the Saskatchewan people through this report. The results achieved within our Government's last fiscal year provide a foundation for establishing priorities and influencing future government activities. Therefore, the annual reports are not only an important accountability document, but they can help to inform future planning and resource allocation in the upcoming years.

As Minister of Agriculture, it is my pleasure to submit the annual report for the 12 months ending March 31, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Bjornerud".

Bob Bjornerud  
Minister of Agriculture

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## Letters of Transmittal



June 2011

The Honourable Bob Bjornerud  
Minister of Agriculture

Sir:

I wish to present to you the annual report of Saskatchewan Agriculture for the 12 months ending March 31, 2011.

The Ministry's annual report was prepared under my direction in accordance with the Government's Accountability Framework and its system of planning, measuring and reporting. I am ultimately responsible for the financial administration and management control of the Ministry. All key actions, and associated economic or fiscal implications contained in this report are, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and reliable.

Respectfully submitted,

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature in dark ink.

Alanna Koch  
Deputy Minister of Agriculture

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## Introduction

This annual report presents the Ministry's activities and results for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011. It reports to the public and elected officials on public commitments made, and other key accomplishments of the Ministry.

With the release of the Ministry Plan for 2010-11, results are provided on the publicly-committed strategies, actions and performance measures identified in the plan. This report also demonstrates progress made on Government commitments as stated in the Government Direction for 2010-11, the Minister's Mandate letter, throne speeches and other commitments.

The 2010-11 Annual Report also sets the stage for future planning and budget processes by providing an opportunity to assess the accomplishments and results, and identifying how to build on past successes for the benefit of Saskatchewan people. This reporting of actual year-end results, both financial and performance, increases the Ministry's accountability to the public.

The Ministry has included performance measures in this annual report. Those measures included in the 2010-11 Plan will be reported here.

The Minister's Mandate was released on June 29, 2010. It can be found at:  
[www.gov.sk.ca/cabinet/bjornerud](http://www.gov.sk.ca/cabinet/bjornerud).

The 2010 Speech from the Throne was delivered on October 27, 2010, and can be found at:  
[www.gov.sk.ca/executive-council/throne-speech](http://www.gov.sk.ca/executive-council/throne-speech).

The government-wide Budget Summary 2011-2012: Balanced, Forward-Looking, and Responsible is available at: [www.finance.gov.sk.ca/budget2011-12](http://www.finance.gov.sk.ca/budget2011-12).

The Ministry Plan for 2011-12 may be found at: [www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/ministry-overview](http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/ministry-overview).

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## Alignment with Government's Direction

The Ministry's activities in 2010-11 align with our Government's vision and three goals:

### Government's Vision

A secure and prosperous Saskatchewan, leading the country in economic and population growth, and providing opportunity for a high quality of life for all.

### Government's Goals

- Sustain economic growth for the benefit of Saskatchewan people, ensuring the economy is ready for growth and positioning Saskatchewan to meet the challenges of economic and population growth and development.
- Secure Saskatchewan as a safe place to live and raise a family where people are confident in their future, ensuring the people of Saskatchewan benefit from the growing economy.
- Keep Government's promises and fulfill the commitments of the election, operating with integrity and transparency, accountable to the people of Saskatchewan.

Together, all ministries and agencies support the achievement of Government's three goals and work towards a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan.

### Ministry Overview

The Ministry of Agriculture's mandate is to foster a commercially viable, self-sufficient and sustainable agriculture and food sector by encouraging farmers, ranchers and communities to develop higher value-

added production and processing and promoting sustainable economic development in rural Saskatchewan through better risk management.

Key programs that the Ministry delivers are:

- Regional services to producers, via 10 regional offices and the Agriculture Knowledge Centre (forage, farm business management, livestock, crops, irrigation);
- Business Risk Management Programs (Crop Insurance, AgriStability, AgriRecovery - Excess Moisture Program, Saskatchewan Feed and Forage Program, Canada-Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative);
- Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program;
- Growing Forward non-business risk management programming (e.g. Farm Business Development Initiative, Environmental Farm Plan, On-farm Food Safety, Post-farm Food Safety, Saskatchewan Agri-Value Initiative, Voluntary Livestock Traceability); and
- Research programming (Agriculture Development Fund, Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies).

The Ministry serves the agriculture and value-added sector of the economy, which includes approximately 44,000 farmers and ranchers and generates over \$8 billion in farm cash receipts in Saskatchewan.

The Ministry partners with many organizations (e.g. Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, Provincial Council of Agricultural

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Development and Diversification Boards, commodity marketing and development commissions) in the development and delivery of its programming.

The Ministry budgeted 477.0 FTEs to deliver its programs and services, with actual utilization for 2010-11 coming in at 469.1.

The underutilization of 7.9 FTEs was mainly a result of vacancy management across the Ministry, which was partially offset by additional resources required for inspecting livestock and operating community pastures.

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## Progress in 2010-11

The Ministry's Plan and accomplishments are primarily focused on the Government's goal to sustain Economic Growth:

***Strategy: Ensure farmers, ranchers, producers groups, and industry have access to effective business risk management programs.***

Business risk management programs include AgriStability, Crop Insurance, AgriRecovery and AgriInvest. The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) is a Treasury Board Crown Corporation, established by an Act of the Legislature, that administers the Crop Insurance and AgriStability programs. It also delivers programs which compensate producers for crop and livestock damage caused by wildlife.

### **AgriStability**

AgriStability is designed to provide support to producers who experience larger income losses. On January 1, 2010, delivery of AgriStability was transferred from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to SCIC.

Staffing has been a key piece of SCIC's AgriStability transition plan. Since assuming the administration, SCIC has completed its staffing requirements and provided focused training for those employees so they can quickly respond to producer enquiries and ensure information is handled correctly. In 2010, SCIC was able to hire the 140 additional people needed to deliver the AgriStability program.

As of March 31, 2011, SCIC had processed 19,544 applications for the 2009 program year, representing 80 per cent of the total applications submitted by participants. Of the applications processed, 4,065 qualified for benefits totaling \$73.3 million.

### **Crop Insurance**

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation protects grain and forage producers from production failures due to natural hazards. Also, SCIC works with producers and industry groups, continuously looking for ways to improve and address the changing needs of producers (*2010 Mandate Letter*).

In 2010, SCIC insured 21.5 million acres in its insurance program. Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation insured 70.3 per cent of all acres seeded to grain crops in the province. In total, SCIC was responsible for \$2.7 billion in liability and brought in \$363.1 million in premiums.

Excess moisture was the primary cause of production loss in 2010 and was a concern for producers throughout the growing season. With seeding well behind average, SCIC extended the dates that customers could seed crops and still be insured. The deadlines were extended to June 15 and 20, depending on crop seeded and location in the province. Still, Crop Insurance customers reported that 6.8 million acres remained unseeded, leading to the highest number of unseeded acreage claims registered and paid to date. Customers also experienced quality issues during harvest, due to the excess moisture, which led to higher claims than more recent years.

The Crop Insurance Program paid \$459.8 million on 28,106 claims in 2010. This compares to 7,486 claims worth \$77.2 million in 2009.

### **AgriRecovery**

Given the unprecedented challenges in the growing season, the Ministry approached the federal government and requested additional assistance over and above existing program funding (*2007 Mandate Letter*). This resulted in three AgriRecovery initiatives being delivered in Saskatchewan:



### **a.) The Excess Moisture Program**

The Excess Moisture Program provided \$30 per eligible acre to Saskatchewan producers who had land too wet to seed as of June 20 or seeded crop lost because of flooding on or before July 31, 2010. The program was administered by SCIC and was cost shared 60 per cent by the federal government and 40 per cent by the provincial government under the AgriRecovery framework of Growing Forward. Saskatchewan's provincial share of this program represented the largest one-time provincial agricultural disaster response in Saskatchewan's history. There were 20,997 claims registered through the Excess Moisture Program, with the program providing a total of \$252.3 million in compensation as of March 31, 2011.

### **b.) Canada - Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative (CSPRI)**

CSPRI was announced May 31, 2010 and ended September 1, 2010 as a federal and provincial initiative under AgriRecovery.

The purpose of the initiative was to provide resources to producers in affected areas to allow pastures to recover from the impacts of drought.

Producers within the designated area were provided funding of \$10 to \$60 per head for breeding animals. Funding levels depended upon the species claimed. The designated area was the known area where pastures could benefit the most from a rest period before grazing in 2010, and that would extend the productive capacity of the pastures. Over the life of the program, 3,581 claims were paid, totalling \$16,878,007.

### **c.) Saskatchewan Feed and Forage Program (SFFP)**

SFFP provides:

- Transportation assistance to Saskatchewan

livestock producers who are short of pasture and/or feed due to excess moisture conditions;

- Assistance to Saskatchewan producers who reseeded hay/forage land and/or pastureland that was damaged due to excess moisture conditions; and
- Assistance to offset feed shortages for their breeding herd where 2010 forage production was impacted by excess moisture.

SFFP was announced November 9, 2010. The Feed Shortfall Assistance component was announced on February 22, 2011.

Feed purchases must have been made between June 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011, with applications due April 30, 2011. Transportation and reseeding activities must have taken place during the period June 1, 2010 to August 1, 2011 with applications due September 30, 2011.

As of March 31, 2011, 105 applications had been approved to be paid \$328,317.

### **AgriInvest**

AgriInvest helps producers manage small income declines, and provides support for investments to mitigate risks or improve market income.

At the end of March 2011, there were 40,489 producers enrolled with a total account balance of \$333 million. There have been 31,355 payments made for a total of \$155.9 million.

### **Increasing Awareness of Business Risk Management Tools**

The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation continues to develop and implement communications strategies to promote the AgriStability program to Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers.

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A key focus of the communication is to ensure producers know they can visit any of the 21 SCIC customer service offices across the province to access program support.

One of the strategies implemented in the last year includes the development of an e-mail data base of producers, accountants and form preparers who have agreed to receive advisories from SCIC regarding important AgriStability information, program changes and deadlines. This feature can be accessed through SCIC's website.

AgriStability's eight program advisors are continually attending meetings and tradeshows to educate form preparers and key stakeholders as to the workings of the program. They are also available to consult with producers, form preparers and accountants to ensure the effective use of this business risk management program.

## **Growing Forward 2**

The Ministry is working towards a new suite of business risk management tools for the national agricultural policy framework that will replace Growing Forward in 2013. Included in this work is consideration of the industry/government technical feasibility study for livestock price insurance, completed in 2010.

***Strategy: Ensure farmers, ranchers, producer groups, and industry have regional access to services and information.***

The Regional Services Branch, formed as a result of the January 2009 Ministry restructure, delivered a strong extension program at the local, regional and provincial level and made significant progress in reconnecting with farmers, ranchers and the agriculture industry. This branch is committed to providing access to production and business information and

services in the areas of crops, livestock, forage and farm business management, at each of the 10 regional offices.

More than 6,050 clients attended Ministry organized workshops and meetings, conferences, field days, tours and other training events across the province as part of a comprehensive communications strategy to promote regional service delivery. Regional Specialists gave approximately 275 presentations on topics related to forage, livestock and crop production, farm business management and funding programs. The specialists worked with local media to share agriculture-related information by writing articles for local newspapers, contributing to industry newsletters, conducting interviews and providing Ministry newsletters both electronically and by mail.

The Regional Offices and the Agriculture Knowledge Centre provided information and assistance on approximately 32,700 inquiries during the year, by telephone, office visits and farm/business visits. The Ministry's clients continue to experience a new model of customer service and improved access to technical knowledge and research results.

## **Crop Sector Services**

The Ministry delivered crop pest diagnostic services to farmers, ranchers and agrologists through the Crop Protection Laboratory. The Ministry also developed and delivered crop pest surveillance and monitoring programming to keep farmers, ranchers and agrologists aware of existing and potential crop risks.

Provincial Crop Specialist services were provided to farmers, ranchers, agrologists and farmer/commodity associations. Timely and relevant technology transfer products (e.g. Guide to Crop Protection, Varieties of Grain Crops, Crop Production News, fact sheets, written articles and presentations) provided up-to-date research results and information on crop agronomy, sector development and crop



protection.

The Ministry developed and supported effective, successful programs such as the Agriculture Fieldworker Policy and delivered the Saskatchewan Variety Performance Group crop variety testing program, as well as supporting the development and implementation of Growing Forward programming in areas such as food safety, environmental farm planning and control of invasive alien plants.

The administration of *The Pest Control Product (Saskatchewan) Act and Regulations* which require inspection, investigation, training and licensing activities, ensure the safe use, handling and distribution of pesticides. The proclamation of *The Weed Control Act*, updated weed control legislation that allows municipalities to take measures to prevent the establishment of new invasive plants before they become a significant problem for their residents, other municipalities or the economy.

***Strategy: Collaborate with other levels of government and industry on key agriculture industry issues.***

### **Growing Forward**

In 2010-11, the Ministry continued delivery of the Growing Forward Agriculture Policy Framework agreement, a federal-provincial suite of programs originally announced in 2009. Growing Forward seeks to achieve greater integration of policy objectives and provide more provincial flexibility regarding specific goals and programming. The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP), the Farm Business Development Initiative (FBDI) and the Saskatchewan Agri-Value Initiative (SAVI) are examples of programs developed using the flexibility provided by the program.

FRWIP is the largest single component of

Growing Forward in Saskatchewan. Since inception nearly 3,600 applications have been received, totalling over \$23 million in program funding. In the past fiscal year, irrigation district projects were added as eligible projects under the program. Program funding is now available for irrigation districts for irrigation infill development. A total of \$4.5 million of program funding was committed to irrigation district projects in 2010-11.

In its initial year of operation, 626 farm clients were approved for FBDI funding benefits. In the second year of operation, 1,044 new farm clients were approved. In early 2011, a program enhancement for young farmers between the ages of 18 and 39 was added: Farm Business Development Initiative for Young Farmers (YFBDI) and 58 farm clients were approved under this option. To date, there have been 1,725 applications. FBDI and YFBDI help farmers develop business plans and enhance business skills in nine business practice areas: business strategy, marketing, production economics, human resources, finance, environment, succession planning, business structure and risk management.

Up to \$10,000 is available for qualified applicants under the YFBDI option and \$4,000 is available to qualified applicants for FBDI to help them engage private sector business services and/or access farm-related education and training programs.

In 2010-11, the SAVI program supported 26 agri-businesses with a goal to assist them in making sound business decisions and capturing market opportunities. SAVI helps the development and expansion of small to medium-sized enterprises or producer/processor organizations involved in value-added processing of agricultural products.

Specifically, SAVI was designed to allow

agri-businesses access to information, business analysis, business growth and development funding up to a maximum of \$50,000, as well as support for skills and training development. In early 2011, the program maximum was increased to \$100,000.

Growing Forward also includes an environmental component, known as Environmental Farm Planning / Group Planning and Beneficial Management Practices. Environmental Farm Planning and Farm Stewardship Initiative were delivered by the Provincial Council of ADD Boards. Watershed group planning activities were also continued, led by local producer groups. Environmental program expenditures in 2010-11 were \$9,580,412.

The Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies (ADOPT) program continues to operate under the Growing Forward framework. The program provides funding to help producer groups evaluate and demonstrate new agricultural practices and technologies at the local level.

In 2010-11, ADOPT received 148 applications and approved 94 for the demonstration of new practices and technologies across all regions of the province. The complete list of these projects is available on our Ministry website at [www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca](http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca).

At the request of producer groups, maximum annual funding for each eligible producer group was also increased from \$50,000 to \$75,000. Program uptake increased, as well.

Industry groups and government have worked together to review programs and services under Growing Forward. This collaborative approach, which included industry consultations held by the federal and provincial governments on business risk

management programs in 2010, has helped to build a network to support long-term agricultural policy development.

### **Food Safety Programming**

Under the Saskatchewan On-Farm Food Safety (OFFS) Implementation program, seven provincial commodity groups applied for and received funding to assist them in provincial level implementation efforts of their nationally recognized OFFS systems in 2010-11.

Funding is available for producer-directed support (i.e. technical advice, equipment, and first certification audits) and organizational support (i.e. workshops, promotional activities, administration, and program delivery support).

Those sectors that have or are in the process of developing a nationally recognized OFFS systems are eligible to apply.

The Saskatchewan Post-Farm Food Safety Program facilitates the adoption of Vendor Recognition (VR), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), and International Organization for Standardization 22000 (ISO 22000) food safety systems by processors.

Funding is provided to non-federally registered food processors in Saskatchewan for implementation efforts.

Three companies accessed the program in 2010-11.

### **Biosecurity**

The animal health unit biosecurity officer has participated in the development of the National Beef Biosecurity Standard during the last year. Consultation has been ongoing

between the animal health unit and the Saskatchewan equine industry in advising Saskatchewan horse owners on biosecurity measures and creating tools to further equine biosecurity. The Ministry's Animal Health Unit has supported the Saskatchewan cattle industry for the promotion of biosecurity in Saskatchewan. In addition, the Animal Health unit has staged six biosecurity information sessions for veterinarians to enhance the understanding of biosecurity needs.

### **Voluntary Traceability**

The Saskatchewan Voluntary Livestock Traceability Rebate provides rebates of up to 70 per cent of eligible costs for the purchase and/or lease of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) handheld and panel readers. Funding is also available for training, software, installation, ultra-rugged computers, and facility modifications necessary for the introduction of RFID technology. The program is open to Saskatchewan livestock handlers.

82 applicants received funding under the rebate portion of the program in 2010-11, totalling \$237,828.

In addition to the rebate, funding was also provided for education and awareness activities undertaken by Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) in Saskatchewan, and to feedlot pilot projects and education activities to assist stakeholders in understanding the benefits and limitations of technology required for traceability.

### **Manage and Enhance Intergovernmental and Trade Relationships**

The Ministry has been active in its efforts to encourage the federal government to engage in bilateral trade negotiations with

countries that represent significant market potential for Saskatchewan agricultural producers. In this regard, the Ministry has submitted input to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada on issues that need to be addressed in Canada's bilateral negotiations with the European Union, India, Japan and Morocco. The Canada-European Union negotiations towards a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement continue to be a matter of strategic interest for this Ministry because of their potential impact on Saskatchewan's market opportunities. As such, the Ministry, in coordination with Executive Council (Intergovernmental Affairs), provided opportunities on two separate occasions in 2010-2011, for industry leaders to meet with key European and Canadian negotiators to discuss the status of the negotiations and impress upon these key officials the issues that are of central importance to agricultural producers in Saskatchewan. The Ministry has also worked closely with Executive Council (Intergovernmental Affairs) to maintain a presence at many of the negotiating sessions, thereby providing the Ministry more precise information on the agricultural issues at stake and how they may impact Saskatchewan.

The Ministry works closely with, and in support of, the federal government's Market Access Secretariat in addressing challenges created by technical trade barriers in other countries. Examples of some of these challenges include India's fumigation requirements for pulse crops, China's restrictions on Canadian beef imports and Country of Origin Labelling in the United States. In March 2011, the Premier highlighted concerns around the pulse fumigation issue while on a trade mission to India and in February 2011, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture sought the perspectives of key officials in Washington, D.C. on how the new U.S. *Food Safety Modernization Act* might impact Saskatchewan agriculture and food exports to the American market. The Ministry was also involved with Alberta and British

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Columbia in a New West Partnership mission to China and Japan in November 2010.

Unfortunately, there was a lack of significant progress at the Doha Round of agricultural trade negotiations in the World Trade Organization in 2010-11.

The Ministry participates in the Federal-Provincial Agriculture Trade Policy Committee, which serves as a venue for discussion and strategy development in regard to international and internal trade policy matters. Ministry officials also participate in the Canadian Agriculture Trade Policy and Competitiveness Research Network (CATPRN). The network provides a forum where members of industry, academia and government engage in policy discussions and conduct research on the impact of various trade policy alternatives (2010 Mandate Letter).

The Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan sold Thomson Meats Ltd. to new private owners effective December 2, 2010. It is hoped that the company will flourish under new ownership.

### **Education Property Tax on Farmland**

In March 2011, the Government of Saskatchewan completed its commitment to reduce the educational property tax mill rate approximately 80 per cent, from 7.08 to 3.91. This action, representing the largest education property tax cut in the history of the province, was taken under the direction of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, with support from the Ministry of Agriculture. Educational property tax on farmland in 2010 was reduced by 69.4 per cent, from \$197.5 million to \$70.3 million, a savings of \$127.2 million (2010 Mandate Letter).

### **Irrigation Expansion at Lake Diefenbaker**

Work continues with industry to expand irrigation in the Lake Diefenbaker area. Soil investigations for irrigation certification continue (17,000 acres in 2010-11) to enable the completion of infill plans for up to 50,000 acres of infill in the South Saskatchewan River, Luck Lake and Riverhurst irrigation districts.

***Strategy: Create an attractive business climate for the agriculture industry and establish the infrastructure that will support business development.***

### **Game Farm Regulations**

In 2011, the game farm industry groups came together under a single organization called the Saskatchewan Cervid Alliance. This process was facilitated and fully supported by the Ministry of Agriculture. Now, with a single organization representing the game farm industry, the Ministry will begin a review of the game farm program and the Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations. The program and regulatory framework are outdated, and with industry support, a process to modernize the administration of the game farm sector will proceed.

### **Livestock Loan Guarantee Program**

The LLG program provides loan guarantees to livestock co-operatives to enable their members to borrow funds for the purchase of cattle, bison and sheep. As of March 31, 2011 there were 78 cattle feeder associations with outstanding loans of \$21.5 million. There were 75 cattle breeder associations with outstanding loans of \$36.2 million.

There is one bison association with outstanding loans of \$545,000 and one sheep association with outstanding loans of \$223,000.



The program also provided loan guarantees for the construction or expansion of feedlots in the province. There are currently seven feedlots taking advantage of the programs with outstanding loans of \$8.3 million.

### **Supplemental Grazing**

In times of need such as drought or flooding, livestock producers can apply to the Saskatchewan Pastures Program for supplemental grazing throughout the grazing season. Producers are granted temporary allocations for their required number of livestock for a given time period within the constraints of the carrying capacity of the pasture. No producers took advantage of this incentive in 2010-11.

### **The Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program**

The Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program was announced on November 15, 2008. The program was developed to return approximately 1.6 million acres of Crown land back into the hands of farmers and ranchers.

More than 83,631 acres of Crown Land, valued at \$25.4 million were sold in 2010-11. In total, since the introduction of the program, approximately 258,000 acres of Crown land have been sold, valued at approximately \$77.5 million (*2010 Mandate Letter*).

### **Irrigation Services Work**

Irrigation research, demonstration and extension continue to be delivered directly to irrigators through the Ministry's five-year industry partnership with the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation. Furthermore, the Ministry, industry and the University of Saskatchewan partner with the federal government at the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre to deliver applied research and demonstration project results to irrigators.

The Water Pumping Equipment Rental

Program received 109 applications and completed 99 pumping jobs. The program is coordinated from Outlook with five other regional depots for local access to the equipment.

Rehabilitation of the East Side Pump Station and M1 Canal, serving the South Saskatchewan River Irrigation District and the Saskatoon South East Water Supply System, continues.

These three irrigation districts completed the two-year infill projects funded by the federal Community Adjustment Fund (\$5.58 million) with additional support from the Ministry (\$620,000) to build long-term capacity for infill. The Ministry approved two more years of infill funding for irrigation districts under the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program.

### **Crop Strategy**

The Ministry developed and initiated implementation of a Crop Strategy. The Crop Strategy will contribute to the Province's increasing economy by meeting the challenges of economic and population growth and development. The Crop Strategy will build on successes, position Saskatchewan on the cutting edge of agriculture technology, increase the influence of Saskatchewan in determining research direction, and in developing policy and programming at the national level, as well as result in increased investment attraction to Saskatchewan (*2010 Mandate Letter*).

## **Regulatory Review**

The Ministry consulted with many organizations on regulations in 2010-11, resulting in the following:

- Five new regulations;
- 16 amendments; and
- Four repeals.

(See appendix F for more information)

## **Changes to the *Animal Protection Act***

Of particular note, this fiscal year the Ministry amended *The Animal Protection Act*, which introduced tougher penalties for those convicted of animal abuse and neglect. The amendment also added specific protection for service animals such as guide dogs. The Act was Saskatchewan Agriculture's only piece of legislation, and one of only two pieces of legislation to be tabled, passed and proclaimed during the fall sitting of the legislature.

## **Completed Transfer of Milk Marketing Responsibilities**

The major accomplishments this year for the Agri-Food Council included: the transfer of milk marketing responsibilities from the Milk Control Board to a producer-run agency through the establishment of The Saskatchewan Milk Marketing Board Regulations under *The Agri-Food Act, 2004*. This facilitated the repeal of: *The Milk Control Act, 1992*; *The Milk Control Regulations*; *The Dairy Producers Regulations, 1995*; *The Dairy Manufacturing Plant Regulations*; *The Milk Transportation Regulations*; and *The Dairy Product Grading Regulations*.

## **Repeal of the *Cattle Marketing Deductions Act, 1992***

The Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association took over full responsibility of the

administration and collection of the provincial and federal cattle levies, allowing for the repeal of *The Cattle Marketing Deductions Act, 1992*.

## **Agri-Food Council**

The Council, in accordance with its oversight responsibilities, held a governance and industry development conference at the end of March 2011.

The Council received positive feedback from attendees and will continue to ensure agencies under its supervision have access to development opportunities.

## **Strategies for Livestock Sector Growth**

Because of our large land base and large supply of feed grain, Saskatchewan is a very competitive place to raise livestock in North America.

The Ministry continues to work on developing and implementing long term plans and strategies that will support growth of the livestock sector in this province (2008 Throne Speech).

## **Federal Advance Payments Program (APP)**

The LLG Program administers the APP program for members of feeder associations, including cattle and bison. There were 824 applications under the program in fiscal 2010-2011.

## **Competitiveness**

Federal, Provincial and Territorial Agriculture Ministers identified competitiveness as a key policy outcome desired in the next agricultural policy framework, Growing

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Forward 2, to be launched in 2013. Officials were directed at the July 2010 Agriculture Ministers meeting to explore changes to institutional and physical infrastructure, taxation, innovation, investments and regulatory impediments.

***Strategy: Invest in progressive and relevant research, innovation and commercialization to benefit the agriculture sector.***

### **Agriculture Development Fund**

In 2010-11, the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) invested \$11.6 million in 206 research projects to create knowledge and technologies for improving the profitability and competitiveness of Saskatchewan's farmers and ranchers. As part of this program, ADF provides ongoing support for the development of new crop varieties and, this year, ADF funding contributed to 22 new crop cultivar candidates for registration.

In this fiscal year, the ADF also approved 73 new projects, committing \$16.6 million over multiple years, a record commitment by ADF. This includes projects in livestock, forages, crops and value-added areas. A list of completed and ongoing projects can be viewed at [www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca](http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca).

Premier Brad Wall, at the Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference that was held in Saskatoon in September 2010, announced an additional \$5 million over the next four years to support research in agricultural biotechnology.

### **Strategic Research Program (SRP)**

Under this program the Ministry continued providing support for 15 research chairs whose work enhances and adds value to Saskatchewan producers and the agriculture

industry. This was the second year in a four-year agreement for \$12.5 million with the University of Saskatchewan and Western Beef Development Centre (WBDC) in support of the SRP program.

### **Support for Agriculture Research Infrastructure**

In this fiscal year, the Ministry contributed \$2 million for the renewal of the phytotron, a controlled environment facility, at the University of Saskatchewan. The work done at the phytotron allows for the rapid development of new crop varieties for our producers.

In 2010-11, the Ministry also contributed \$1 million towards the construction of a new dairy research and teaching facility at the University of Saskatchewan. Research undertaken at the facility will benefit dairy producers and also add value to Saskatchewan produced crops.

In 2010-11, the Ministry signed new five-year agreements with the Prairie Swine Centre and Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) for \$1.65 million and \$1.5 million, respectively.

In 2010-11, the Ministry provided \$995,000 to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) and WBDC to carry out research, development, evaluation and extension activities to improve the agricultural machinery and livestock industries in the province.

### **Technology Transfer:**

#### **a.) Ag-West Bio**

Ag-West Bio (AWB) Inc. focuses on creating value in agriculture, food, health and bio-based industries through leadership in the application of science and technology for the benefit of Saskatchewan people.

In 2010-11, \$800,000 in funding was provided to Ag-West Bio Inc. (\$400,000 from the Ministry, and \$400,000 under the federal/provincial Growing Forward programming).

#### **b.) Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre**

The Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre provides services to the food industry to support the growth of the value-added sector in Saskatchewan. In 2010-11, \$400,000 in funding was provided (\$160,000 from the Ministry and \$240,000 from the federal/provincial Growing Forward programming). This funding contributed to addressing 4,840 inquiries and consultation from the industry and assisted 18 companies in developing prototypes for pre-commercialization.

#### **c.) Agri-ARM**

A total of \$352,000 was provided to conduct applied research and demonstrate new technology at eight sites through the Agri-ARM program: East Central Research Foundation, Canora, SK; Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation, Indian Head, SK; North East Agriculture Research Foundation, Melfort, SK; Saskatchewan Conservation Learning Centre, Prince Albert, SK; Seager Wheeler Historic Farm Society Inc., Rosthern, SK; South East Research Foundation, Redvers, SK; Western Applied Research Corporation, Scott, SK; Wheatland Conservation Area Inc., Swift Current, SK.

#### **d.) Other Programs**

The Ministry, through Growing Forward programming, provided funding for two other programs: The Saskatchewan Agri Value Initiative and Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies. Please refer to page 10 for details.

### ***Strategy: Promote the agriculture sector and its benefits.***

#### **Youth Advisory Committee**

In early 2009, the Minister created a Youth Advisory Committee to provide advice and direction to the Ministry of Agriculture on youth attraction and retention in the agriculture industry. The committee is comprised of seven members between the ages of 18 and 35, all of whom are actively involved in farming or ranching and represent different regions in Saskatchewan.

The committee met regularly to discuss policy areas of relevance to youth considering, or already engaged in a career in agriculture, especially primary production. Topics included options around business risk management programming, financial management, industry promotion, labour and human resources, and training and education.

The committee submitted a final report to the Minister in December 2010 that included 12 recommendations. Many of the recommendations have already begun to be implemented by the Ministry, including increased funding for farm-related consulting services and training through the Farm Business Development Initiative and new funding for the Saskatchewan Young Ag-Entrepreneurs.

The committee's mandate has been extended for an additional five years.

#### **Saskatchewan Agriculture Scholarship**

In September 2010, the Ministry announced its first ever scholarship program. Ten scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded to Grade 12 students who are entering agriculture-related post-secondary studies in 2011. The program is intended to attract new



participants into the agriculture sector (2010 Mandate Letter).

### **Industry Assistance**

The Ministry provided \$5.7 million to various organizations under industry assistance. (See Appendix E for details).

### **Agriview**

The Ministry published 10 issues of Agriview, its primary communications vehicle. Agriview provides production information, and highlights agricultural issues and activities. It is distributed to approximately 49,000 producers and industry organizations.

### **Promoting Agriculture**

The Ministry continues to showcase the Saskatchewan agriculture industry and opportunities on a national and international stage.

Saskatchewan took part in the Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference that was held in Saskatoon in September 2010, details of which are highlighted on page 17.

Saskatchewan hosted the Annual Conference of Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Agriculture July 6-8, 2010, in Saskatoon. The Ministers discussed issues affecting agriculture including excess moisture conditions, strengthening Canada's food safety system, innovation, trade and market access and steps to help young farmers.

Agriculture also featured prominently in the government/industry trade mission to India and Bangladesh led by the Premier in March of 2011 (details on page 11).

### **Green Certificate Program**

Fourteen individuals were provided with certificates under *The Green Certificate Farm Training Program*, administered by the Ministry. This program provides practical hands-on training curriculum for agriculture in Saskatchewan.

***Strategy: Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Ministry's programs and services so as to ensure the best use of public funds.***

### **Lean Implementation**

This fiscal year, the Ministry of Agriculture established the governance structure for lean implementation within the Ministry. There were three value stream mapping events that took place in 2010-11 that had targeted process improvements to provide process efficiencies in their respective areas.

### **AgriStability Transition**

Training has been critical to the transition of AgriStability to SCIC. Customer service staff located in the 21 offices across the province have received extensive training on data entry reducing bottlenecks in the processing of AgriStability applications. At the end of March, 65 per cent of customer service staff in the customer service offices were trained with the remainder completed by April 30, 2011.

Additional training continues on specific areas to improve the quality and quantity of processed files. The staff at SCIC continue to meet regularly on developing and documenting best practices and efficiencies.

Also, SCIC has been focused on quickly responding when producers have questions or

enquiries about AgriStability. The 10-person AgriStability call centre is answering 99 per cent of calls within 15 seconds.

AgConnect, an online tool, is under development where producers, farm preparers and accountants will have the ability to view and submit AgriStability information through a secure web-based application. A broad launch to program participants is planned for the 2011 program year. Using AgConnect should speed up the processing time for AgriStability applications, which will benefit program participants.

There were 21 Dialogue with Producer sessions held across the province in October and November of 2010. These sessions were designed to garner feedback from Crop Insurance customers and AgriStability participants about current service delivery and ways to improve that service delivery.

### **Growing Forward Evaluation**

Industry consultation meetings on business risk management programs were held in Saskatoon and Regina in 2010 as part of the national review of the programs. Approximately 33 industry groups were represented at these meetings.

### **Improvements to Crop Insurance**

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation consulted with several industry groups in developing 2011 program enhancements and will continue to work with stakeholders to ensure programming meets the needs of today's producer. The industry groups SCIC has and continues to work with include: Ministry of Agriculture's Youth Advisory Committee, Saskatchewan Bee Keepers Association, Saskatchewan Pulse Growers, Saskatoon Berry Council of Canada, Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association, Saskatchewan Stock Grower Association, Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission, Saskatchewan Alfalfa Seed Producers Association, Saskatchewan

Forage Council, Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities and the Agriculture Producers Association of Saskatchewan.

Through ongoing consultations SCIC is:

- Continuing to analyze the potential for establishing a bee mortality insurance plan;
- Playing an active role on the Industry/Ministry working group and Business Risk Management working group by investigating new insurance options for producers;
- Co-chair of the National Forage Review Team analyzing new forage insurance options;
- Garnering feedback and suggestions for the current Variable and In-Season Price Options; and
- Looking for further enhancements to the Crop Averaging Program.

## Performance Measures

Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information			
Applications for the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP)	Targeted to southwest Saskatchewan			
	Category	Applications – 2008*	Completed 2009	Completed 2010
	Community well	66	16	41
	On-farm projects	2,987	1,455	565
	* Difference from the 2010-11 plan due to withdrawn applications.			
	Province-wide			
	2009		2010	
Category	Applications	Completed projects	Applications	Completed projects
Community well	27	1	18	4
On-farm projects	2,089	650	1,250	1,154

### Measure Description

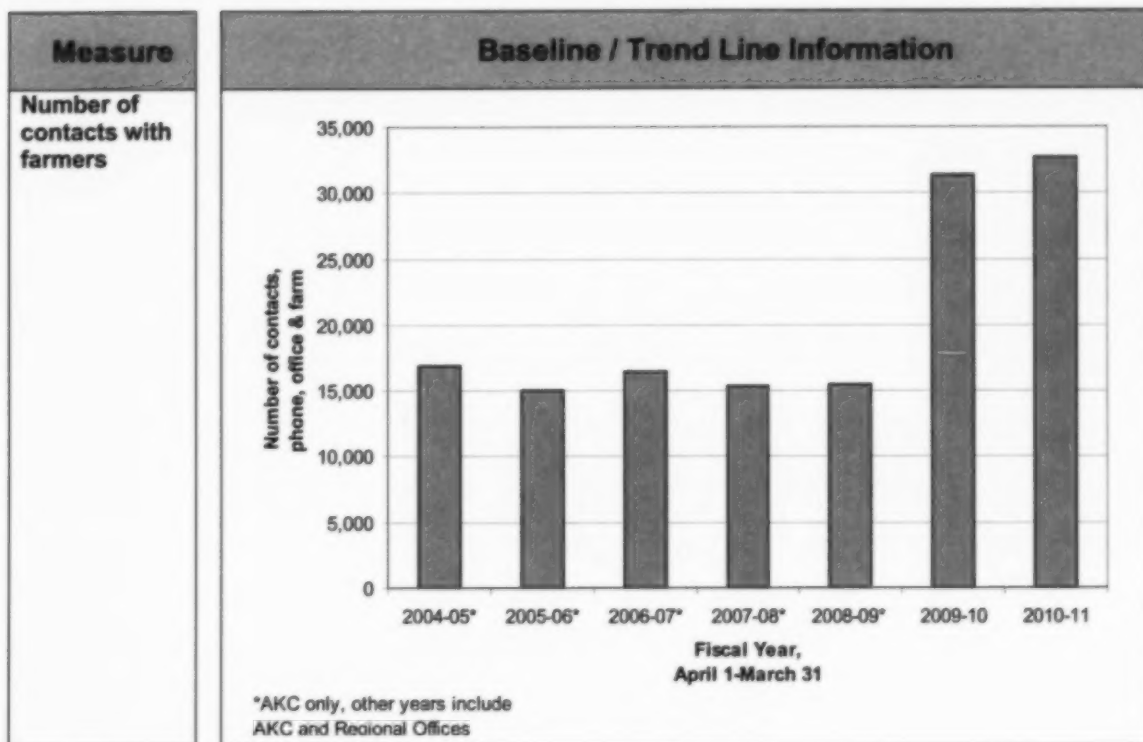
The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP) supports the development of secure water sources in Saskatchewan to expand the livestock industry, encourage rural economic activity and mitigate the effects of future drought. Farmers, ranchers, Rural Municipalities and Indian Bands across Saskatchewan are eligible for funding of the following projects:

- community wells;
- large diameter and small diameter wells;
- shallow or deep-buried pipelines; and
- dugouts.

This program improves the business climate through infrastructure development (i.e. availability of water sources), and it is also one of the Growing Forward suite of programs provided in collaboration with the federal government.

The application period for the targeted (for Southwest Saskatchewan) FRWIP closed on December 3, 2008, and no new applications were accepted in 2009. Due to constraints on construction resources, the completion deadline for projects was extended to December 31, 2010.

The province-wide FRWIP was established under Growing Forward in April 2009. The number of projects completed will provide a measure for success of the program, however, excess moisture received this past year and constraints on construction resources have restricted the number of projects completed to date.



#### Measure Description

In order to be more readily accessible to the industry, the Ministry transitioned from a centralized service delivery approach to a distributed regional presence in early 2009. This allows Regional Specialists to be better positioned to help farmers and ranchers increase the profitability and productivity of their operations.

Being more readily available to clients will change the number of contacts with farmers and ranchers enabling the Ministry to gauge the accessibility and usefulness of the technical and support services made available. The number of contacts includes telephone calls, farm visits and office visits at the Ministry's Regional Offices and the Agriculture Knowledge Centre (AKC) located at the Moose Jaw Regional Office.

Note that the increase in number of contacts beginning in 2009-10 reflects reporting from both the AKC and Regional Offices. Prior to that time, only AKC contacts were tracked.

Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information			
Client satisfaction survey				
		2005*	2007*	2010
	Courteousness of employees	96%	99%	99%
	Knowledge of employees	83%	88%	95%
	Usefulness of information/solution	80%	82%	90%
	Communication skills	96%	97%	96%
	Amount of time required to resolve problem	82%	85%	90%
	Overall service provided	76%	85%	94%
* AKC only, 2010 includes the AKC and Regional Offices				

#### Measure Description

The 2005 client survey took place within a year of the change from Rural Service Centres to the Agriculture Knowledge Centre (AKC) as the contact point for the Ministry. The 2007 client survey showed increased satisfaction with AKC services; however, about one third of the clients commented on the lack of regional services and personal contact with Ministry staff.

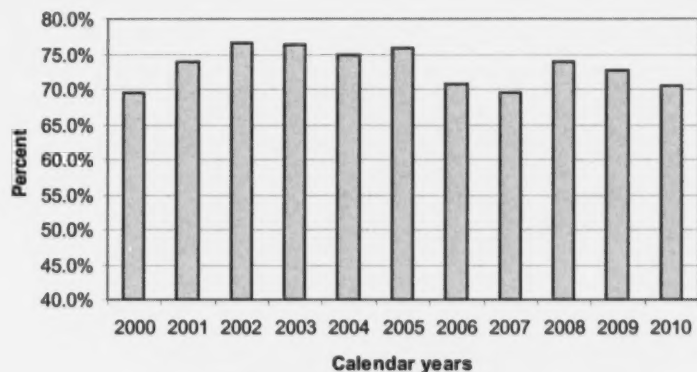
Since these two surveys, the Ministry expanded its regional presence in 2009 and specialists are again providing extension programming and meeting with farmers and ranchers to help solve their problems. The 2010 client satisfaction survey includes Regional Office clients and provides an indication of the success of the new regional delivery model.

This measure provides an indication of the satisfaction of Ministry clients in their interactions with the AKC in 2005 and 2007, and in future years with Ministry staff across the province. The percentages in the table represent those clients who responded as "satisfied" and "very satisfied" to each of the questions.

## Measure

**Acreage insured under Crop Insurance as a percentage of total seeded acres**

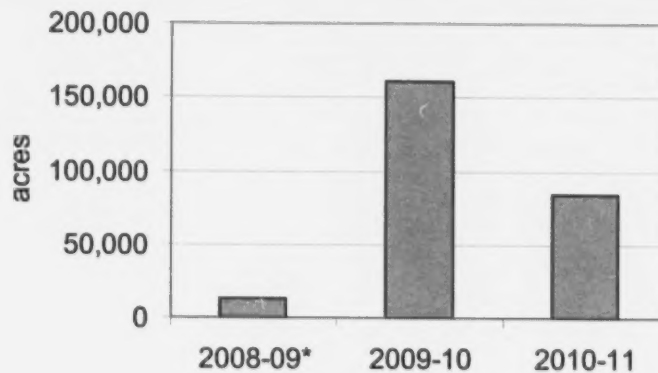
## Baseline / Trend Line Information



### Measure Description

Crop Insurance is a valuable risk management tool for producers. One measure to determine Crop Insurance program participation is comparing insured acreage to the total possible acreage that could be insured. The goal is to maintain or increase the amount of insured acreage in Saskatchewan. But fluctuations occur from year to year for various reasons, including seeding conditions, individual circumstances, program options, crop prices and speculation on the current year's outlook. Changes are made annually to enhance the program and benefit Saskatchewan producers.

The insured acres as a percentage of total acres seeded decreased in 2010 due to challenges in seeding and changes in producers' risk tolerance levels.

**Measure****Baseline / Trend Line Information****Number of acres of Crown land sold**

\* from November 3, 2008

April 1 - March 31

**Measure Description**

In November 2008, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture introduced a five-year Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program to Crown land lessees. The program is designed to encourage lessees to purchase their leased agricultural Crown lands, enabling them more control over their own business operations. Many lessees have been asking for this type of program for a long period of time and the program fulfills a commitment made in the 2007 Throne Speech.

The program offers agricultural Crown land lessees a sliding scale incentive for purchase, beginning with a 10 per cent incentive on the sale price of the land from November 15, 2008 to December 31, 2010; an eight per cent incentive in 2011; a six per cent incentive in 2012; a four per cent incentive in 2013 and a two per cent incentive in 2014.

The 2010-11 plan displayed the sales on a calendar-year basis. The chart above was changed to a fiscal year basis in order to be readily comparable to the financial component of the annual report.



Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information		
<b>Presence at trade shows, industry events and partnerships</b>	Ministry Involvement	2009-10*	2010-11*
	Trade show, international meetings, etc.	26	26
	Program information sessions, for example, Growing Forward, AgriStability	23	38
	Industry conferences, meetings, etc.	136	139
	Youth, promotional and sponsorships	35	41
	Information sessions, training, field days	102	109
	Other events such as open houses, consultation, etc.	22	35
	Federal-Provincial-Territorial meetings	8	15
	Total	352	403
* The 2009-10 and 2010-11 plans indicated events for the period April 1 to February 28. This measure reports the entire fiscal year April 1 to March 31.			

#### Measure Description

This measure provides an indication of the interaction of Ministry staff with the agriculture industry. It provides an insight into several strategy areas, including:

- provision of regional services since much of the Ministry involvement listed in the table is provided in rural areas, for example information sessions, open houses or field days,
- collaboration with other levels of government and industry, and
- promotion of the agriculture sector.

Ministry staff provide production and economic advice by putting on seminars and workshops throughout the province. Regional meetings employing the regional crops, livestock, forage and farm business management specialists are held on a variety of topics.

The Ministry is very active at the Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) table. Saskatchewan co-chaired the Ministers', Deputy Ministers' and Assistant Deputy Ministers' FPT Agriculture committees from July 2009 to July 2010. Saskatchewan's objective at these meetings is to ensure that the viewpoints of the Province are considered as the industry progresses and decisions are made.

Many events take place that are attended by school children. Using these venues, the Ministry creates awareness and knowledge of the significance of agriculture to the economy and promotes agriculture as an exciting career opportunity for youth.

If there is overlap, the event is only reported in one category. The number of overall events has increased but the distribution between the classifications has changed somewhat between fiscal years. For example, information sessions have increased reflecting a large number of information sessions put on by SCIC. Additionally, Regional Services has changed focus from introducing the new service model to providing program workshops or information sessions.



**Measure****Baseline / Trend Line Information**

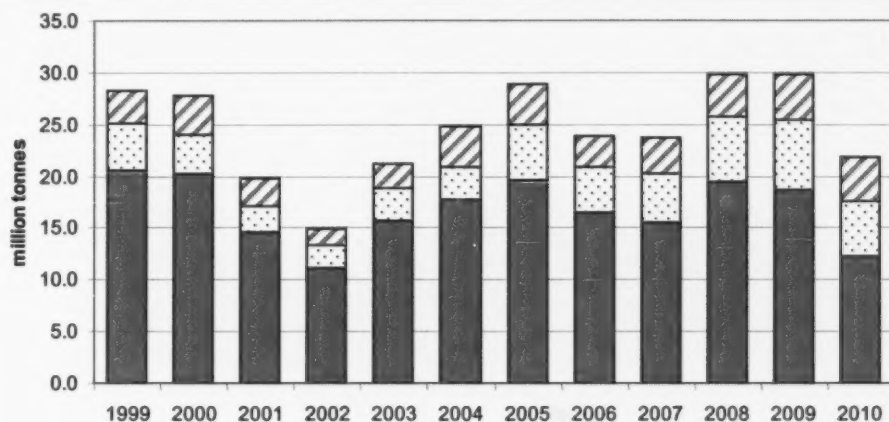
**Number of practices, technologies and products demonstrated within Saskatchewan**

Fiscal Year	ADOPT Applications Approved	ADOPT Funding Approved
2009 - 2010	87	\$575,394
2010 - 2011	95	\$791,058

**Measure Description**

Saskatchewan Agriculture offers a comprehensive portfolio of research and development (R&D) programs designed to meet the current needs and to create future growth opportunities for the agriculture industry. These programs coupled with the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Growing Forward (GF) suite of programs support applied research and development; foster product, process and market development; and help ensure that there is the necessary research capacity in Saskatchewan to meet the needs of our farmers and other sectors of the agriculture industry.

In addition to the Ministry's core R&D programs are the new GF programs that include the Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies (ADOPT) program. The purpose of the ADOPT program is to accelerate the transfer of knowledge to Saskatchewan producers and ranchers and to help producer groups evaluate and demonstrate new agricultural practices and technologies at the local level. The results of successful trials can then be adopted more quickly by farming operations in the region. This measure provides an indication of technologies reaching agriculture producers.

**Measure****Baseline / Trend Line Information****Crop  
Production**

Source: Statistics Canada

■ grains ■ oilseeds ▨ special crops

**Measure Description**

Crop production is a long-term indicator of the health of the crop sector. While the Ministry can influence crop production through the provision of technical advice, investment in research and technology transfer, other factors, as described below, have a much larger impact.

The drop in production in 2002 resulted from below-average harvested area and below-average yields. The growing season suffered weather-related problems including cool weather that slowed seeding progress, drought, flooding and early frost as well as disease and insect infestations. 2003 again had low yields for many of the same reasons. 2008 and 2009 had good weather that allowed the crops to flower longer and set more seed. In fact, 2008 recorded the highest harvested crop on record. Production was slightly lower in 2009 and crop producers faced a long, drawn-out harvest. 2010 crop production was down significantly due to excess moisture, a cool growing season and crops that were late reaching maturity. The 10-year average (2000-2009) crop production is 24.4 million tonnes.

## 2010 - 11 Financial Summary

### Expenses:

During 2010-11, the Ministry of Agriculture incurred expenses of \$482.3 million, which is \$96.5 million over the original expense budget of \$385.8 million. Additional expenditures of \$110.8 million were incurred to fund three programs under AgriRecovery: the Canada-Saskatchewan Excess Moisture Program, the Canada-Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative and the Saskatchewan Feed and Forage Program. Other additional expenditures included \$4.6 million to fully fund the AgriStability and AgriInvest programs for 2010; \$4.6 million for additional research grants; \$3 million for additional requirements of the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program; and \$1 million for the Comprehensive Pest Control Program (Fieldworker and Beaver Control Programs).

Offsetting these additional expenditures were \$13.3 million in operational savings realized across the Ministry; \$6.3 million in lower expenditures for non-BRM programs under Growing Forward; \$3.2 million in reduced incentives under the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program; \$2.7 million for lower administration costs of the AgriStability Program; \$1 million for lower than expected payments under the Gopher Control Rebate Program; \$0.6 million for lower Crop Insurance premiums and \$0.4 million for reduced Industry Assistance grants.

The revised budget includes supplementary estimates of \$144 million for the Canada-Saskatchewan Excess Moisture Program and AgriStability, as well as \$82 thousand in statutory adjustments as a result of the net financing requirement for the Livestock Services Revolving Fund.

The following table provides a summary of expenses:

	<b>Original Budget (\$000's)</b>	<b>Revised Budget (\$000's)</b>	<b>Actual (\$000's)</b>
Personal Services	28,142	28,142	23,567
Supplier and Other Payments	23,198	23,116	13,719
Transfers to Individuals	262,361	406,361	370,034
Transfers for Public Services	69,769	69,769	72,579
Amortization Expense	2,306	2,306	2,406
<b>Total</b>	<b>385,776</b>	<b>529,694</b>	<b>482,305</b>

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### Revenue:

In 2010-11, the Ministry collected \$166.4 million in revenue; up \$54.1 million from the Budget Estimate of \$112.3 million. The increased revenue is primarily attributed to a \$57.3 million reduction in the amounts previously recorded for the Canadian Agriculture Income Stabilization (CAIS) program and AgriStability for the 2003 to 2009 crop years due to revised estimates for the programs. Surplus funds of \$4.3 million from the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program 2008 were returned to the GRF.

Offsetting these increased revenues is decreased land revenue of \$7.4 million due mainly to lower than expected sales under the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program; partially offset by higher than expected lease revenues.

### Full Time Equivalents (FTEs):

The Ministry budgeted 477.0 FTEs to deliver its programs and services, with actual utilization for 2010-11 coming in at 469.1. The underutilization was mainly a result of vacancy management across the Ministry, which was partially offset by additional resources required for inspecting livestock and operating community pastures.

# 2010 - 11 Financial Schedules

Ministry of Agriculture  
Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures

	2010-11 Estimates \$000s	2010-11 Actuals \$000s	Variances over (under) \$000s	Notes
<b>Revenue</b>				
Land Revenue:				
Crown Land Sales	\$ 32,000	23,095	(8,905)	1
Rent and Penalty on Land Leases	23,000	24,877	1,877	2
Land Licenses and Permits	650	419	(231)	3
Interest	200	80	(120)	4
Receipts from Federal Government	54,100	54,530	430	5
Privileges, Licenses and Permits	114	115	1	
Sales, Services and Service Fees	1,431	458	(973)	6
Interest Revenue	650	500	(150)	7
Other Revenue	51	4,430	4,379	8
Refund of Previous Year Expenditures	73	57,851	57,778	9
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 112,269</b>	<b>166,355</b>	<b>54,086</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>				
<b>Central Management and Services</b>	<b>\$ 7,283</b>	<b>5,754</b>	<b>(1,529)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Industry Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 6,096</b>	<b>5,692</b>	<b>(404)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Land Management</b>				
Land Management Services	\$ 3,218	3,416	198	3
Land Revenue Bad Debt Allowances	500	937	437	4
Crown Land Sale Incentive Program	6,000	2,790	(3,210)	5
Pastures Revolving Fund				
Net Financing Requirement (Recovery)	-	(582)	(582)	6
Subtotal	\$ 9,718	6,561	(3,157)	
<b>Policy and Planning</b>	<b>\$ 8,446</b>	<b>7,258</b>	<b>(1,188)</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Research and Technology</b>				
Project Coordination	\$ 891	804	(87)	8
Research Programming	16,026	20,621	4,595	9
Subtotal	\$ 16,917	21,425	4,508	

# Financial Schedules 2010-2011

	2010-11 Estimates \$000s	2010-11 Actuals \$000s	Variances over (under) \$000s	Notes
<b>Regional Services</b>				
Regional Services	\$ 32,170	23,683	(8,487)	10
Livestock Services Revolving Fund				
Net Financing Requirement (Recovery)	500	418	(82)	11
Subtotal	32,670	24,101	(8,569)	
<b>Financial Programs</b>				
Financial Programs Management	\$ 9,248	4,280	(4,968)	12
<b>Business Risk Management</b>				
Crop Insurance Program Delivery	\$ 29,510	29,510	-	
Crop Insurance Premiums	97,549	96,885	(664)	13
AgriStability Program Delivery	19,712	17,010	(2,702)	14
AgriStability	104,600	109,308	4,708	15
AgriInvest	32,000	31,880	(120)	16
AgriRecovery	-	110,825	110,825	17
Subtotal	\$ 283,371	395,418	112,047	
<b>Irrigation and Water Infrastructure</b>				
Irrigation Services	\$ 7,721	5,206	(2,515)	18
Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program	2,000	5,000	3,000	19
Subtotal	9,721	10,206	485	
<b>Budget Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 383,470</b>	<b>480,695</b>	<b>97,225</b>	
<b>Supplementary Estimates/Special Warrants</b>	<b>\$ 144,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(144,000)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Statutory Adjustment</b>	<b>\$ (82)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Total Revised Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 527,388</b>	<b>480,695</b>	<b>(46,693)</b>	
<b>Capital Asset Acquisitions</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>(1,145)</b>	<b>(1,145)</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Amortization of Capital Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,306</b>	<b>2,406</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Total Revised Estimates and Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 529,694</b>	<b>482,305</b>	<b>(47,389)</b>	
<b>FTE Staff Complement</b>	<b>477.0</b>	<b>469.1</b>	<b>(7.9)</b>	<b>1</b>
(FTE-Full Time Equivalent)				

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## 2010 - 11 Financial Schedules - Notes

Explanations of variances which exceed \$50,000 between Estimates and Actuals.

### Revenue

1. Lower than anticipated land sales under the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program.
2. Increase in lease rates on oil battery sites and more leased land than anticipated held by the Crown due to lower than expected Crown land sales.
3. Decreased number of land transactions compared to budget.
4. Decreased interest revenue as outstanding account balances were paid down.
5. Increased revenue from the Federal Government for non-BRM programs under Growing Forward; offset by reductions in administration of the Crop Insurance and AgriStability programs.
6. Decreased demand for irrigation services, partially offset by unbudgeted revenue from water pumping program.
7. Decreased interest due to write offs of short-term hog loans and lower than anticipated Crown land sales.
8. Return of funds from the Saskatchewan Agricultural Stabilization Fund, due to the windup of the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program 2008.
9. Reduction in the previous year liability for AgriStability, AgriInvest and CAIS for 2009 and prior years due to lower forecasts and reversal of miscellaneous previous years' accruals no longer required.

### Expenditure

1. Vacancy management, and savings in accommodations and other operating expenses.
2. Reduced funding for the Gopher Control Rebate Program and reduced industry assistance grants; offset by increased funding for the Fieldworker and Beaver Control Programs.
3. Increased salaries and operating expenses due mainly to the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program.
4. Increase in bad debt allowance.
5. Lower than expected land sales resulted in lower than expected cost of incentives for the program.
6. The Pastures Revolving Fund cash receipts exceeded cash expenditures resulting in a net recovery. Revenues were slightly higher than expected and expenses were slightly lower than expected.
7. Vacancy management and savings in IT and other operating expenses.
8. Operational savings.
9. Additional research grants approved.
10. Reduced expenses for the non-BRM programs under Growing Forward, vacancy management and operational savings.
11. The Livestock Services Revolving Fund cash expenditures exceeded cash revenues, as expected. However, the financing requirement was slightly lower than originally anticipated, as expenditures were slightly less than budgeted.
12. Reduced expenses for the non-BRM programs under Growing Forward, vacancy management and operational savings.



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13. Reduced crop insurance premiums due to excess moisture conditions; offset by increased wildlife damage claims.
  14. Lower administration costs than anticipated due to efficiencies gained with provincial administration.
  15. Based on the federal government's forecast, higher contributions were required to fully fund the 2010 AgriStability Program.
  16. Based on the federal government's forecast, lower contributions were required to fully fund the 2010 AgriInvest Program.
  17. Additional funding required for three AgriRecovery Programs: the Canada-Saskatchewan Excess Moisture Program, the Canada-Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative and the Saskatchewan Feed and Forage Program.
  18. Lower costs incurred for rehabilitation work on irrigation infrastructure, vacancy management and operational savings.
  19. Increased contribution to the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program to cover applications received.
  20. The Ministry received Supplementary Estimates in 2010/11 for the Canada-Saskatchewan Excess Moisture Program and for AgriStability.
  21. There is a statutory provision for revolving funds when the cash expenditures exceed revenue. Variances for the Livestock Services Revolving Fund are explained in note 11.
  22. Capital expenditures for irrigation infrastructure, operating equipment and leasehold improvements.
  23. Amortization slightly higher than budgeted due to acquisitions of capital assets.
  24. Loss on sale of agricultural land classified as tangible capital assets, and the changes in inventory and prepaid expenses.

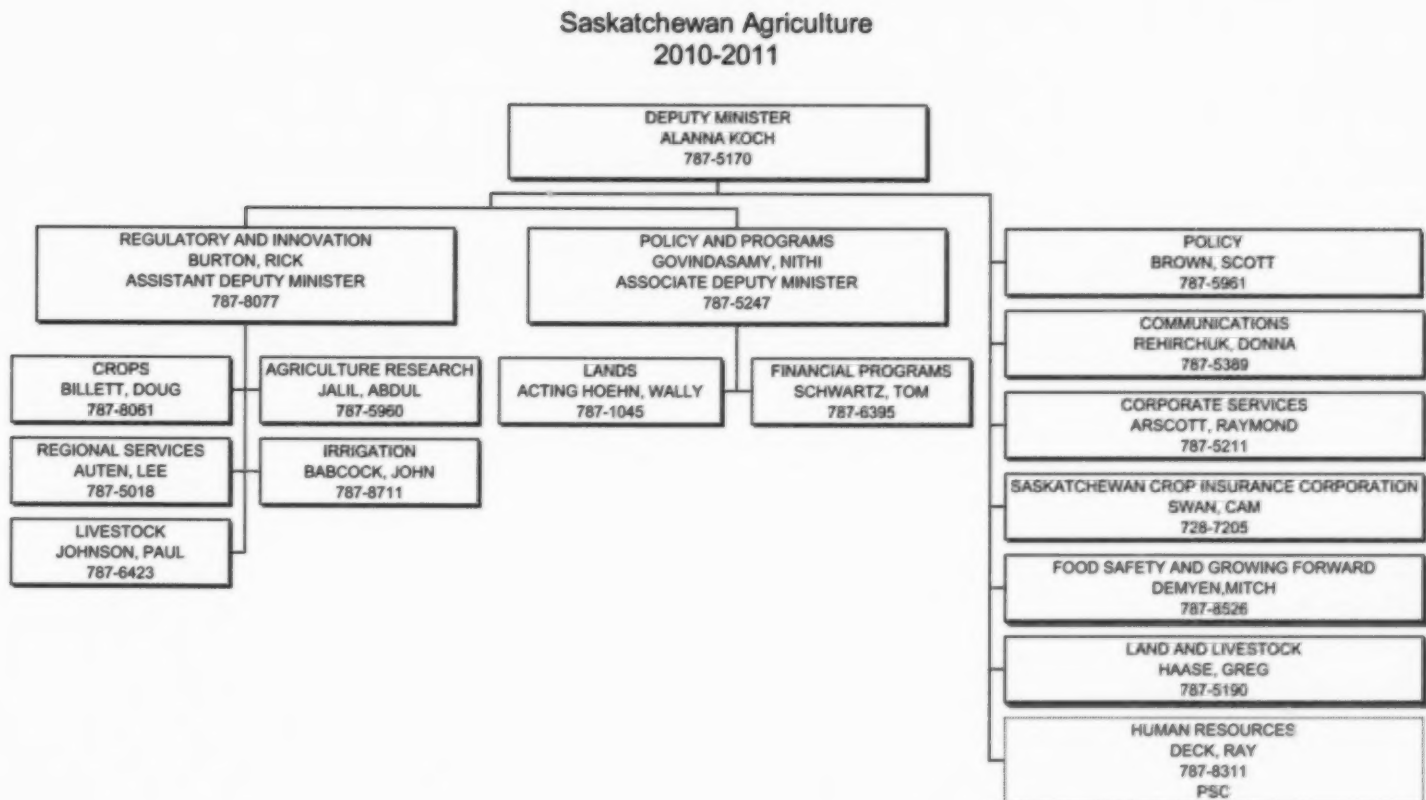
#### **FTE Staff Complement**

1. Vacancy management, including the Workforce Adjustment Strategy, partially offset by additional staff required for livestock inspections and pastures operations.



# Appendices

## Appendix A: Ministry Organizational Chart (To Director Level)



# Appendices

## Appendix B – Loans and Guaranteed Debt

### Livestock Loan Guarantee (LLG) Program

The LLG Program facilitates growth of Saskatchewan's livestock industry by providing producer associations access to credit at favourable interest rates and with limited collateral requirements for purchase of cattle, sheep or bison. The Program may also be used as a management tool to generate cash flow through retained ownership options. The LLG Program supports increased livestock production by providing guarantees to lenders who make loans to production associations and individual feedlot operators.

During 2010-11, budgeted and actual guarantees under this program were:

Breeder Associations (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	19,000	9,183	
Additions			
Reductions	(5,000)	(353)	
Ending Balance	14,000	8,830	(5,170)

#### Explanation of Variance:

Program participation is lower as a result of market uncertainty, producers exiting the livestock industry and additional options for financing.

Feeder Associations (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	14,000	6,018	
Additions			
Reductions		(55)	
Ending Balance	14,000	5,963	(8,037)

#### Explanation of Variance:

Program participation is lower as a result of market uncertainty, producers exiting the livestock industry and additional options for financing.

Individual Cattle Feeder Loan Guarantees (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	2,000	23	
Additions		38	
Reductions			
Ending Balance	2,000	61	(1,939)

#### Explanation of Variance:

Program participation is lower as a result of market uncertainty, producers exiting the livestock industry and additional options for financing.

<b>Feedlot Construction Loan Guarantees (In thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance Over (Under)</b>
Beginning Balance	3,000	2,107	
Additions			
Reductions		(9)	
Ending Balance	3,000	2,098	(902)

**Explanation of Variance:**

Program participation lower as a result of market uncertainty.

<b>Enhanced Feeder Loan Guarantees (In thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance Over (Under)</b>
Beginning Balance	500	nil	
Additions			
Reductions			
Ending Balance	500	nil	(500)

**Explanation of Variance:**

No producers have enrolled in the program.

**Short Term Hog Loan Program(s)**

The Short Term Hog Loan Program(s) supported increased livestock production by providing loans to producers. The initial Short-Term Hog Loan Program that was announced in December 1998 assisted hog producers in offsetting operating losses due to a severe reduction in hog prices at that time. A second hog loan program was announced in November 2002 in response to the high feed prices and depressed market prices that hog producers were experiencing. A third hog loan program was announced in December 2007 again in response to the high feed prices and depressed market prices.

The 1998 Short-Term Hog Loan Program is complete and no further loans are outstanding. During 2010-11, budgeted and actual loans under the remaining programs were as follows:

<b>2002 STHP outstanding loans (In thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance Over (Under)</b>
Beginning Balance	Nil	183	
Additions			
Reductions	Nil	(152)	
Ending Balance	Nil	31	31

**Explanation of Variance:**

It was expected that all loans would be repaid by March 31, 2010; however there are still a few loans that remain outstanding.

<b>2008 STHP outstanding loans (In thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance Over (Under)</b>
Beginning Balance	14,097	14,834	
Additions			
Reductions	(250)	(6,143)	
Ending Balance	13,847	8,691	(5,156)

**Explanation of Variance:**

Cancellation of uncollectible loans.

**Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan**

Agri-Food Equity Fund (AFEF) debt was financing used by the fund for agri-value added investments and will be repaid as AFEF investments are repaid.

During 2010-11 budgeted and actual balances under this program were:

<b>Agri-Food Equity Fund (In thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance Over (Under)</b>
Beginning Balance	6,150	6,150	
Additions			
Reductions	(1,600)	(6,150)	
Ending Balance	4,550	nil	(4,550)

**Explanation of Variance:**

ACS paid the loan in full.

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# Appendices

## Appendix C: Legislation Administered

*The Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan Act*

*The Agricultural Equipment Dealerships Act*

*The Agricultural Implements Act*

*The Agricultural Leaseholders Act*

*The Agricultural Operations Act*

*The Agricultural Safety Net Act*

*The Agri-Food Act, 2004*

*The Agrologists Act, 1994*

*The Animal Identification Act*

*The Animal Products Act*

*The Animal Protection Act, 1999*

*The Apiaries Act, 2005*

*The Crop Insurance Act*

*The Crop Payments Act*

*The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization Act*

*The Diseases of Animals Act*

*The Expropriation (Rehabilitation Projects) Act*

*The Farmers' Counselling and Assistance Act*

*The Farm Financial Stability Act*

*The Farming Communities Land Act*

*Weed Control Act*

*The Grain Charges Limitation Act*

*The Horned Cattle Purchases Act*

*The Irrigation Act, 1996*

*The Land Bank Repeal and Temporary Provisions Act*

*The Leafcutting Beekeepers Registration Act*

*The Line Fence Act*

*The On-farm Quality Assurance Programs Act*

*The Pastures Act*

*The Pest Control Act*

*The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act*

*The Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute Act, 1999*

*The Provincial Lands Act \**

*The Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act \**

*The Saskatchewan 4-H Foundation Act*

*The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act*

*The Soil Drifting Control Act*

*The Stray Animals Act*

*The Vegetable, Fruit and Honey Sales Act*

*The Veterinarians Act, 1987*

*The Veterinary Services Act*

**\* Joint responsibility**

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## Appendices

### Appendix D - Special Purpose Funds and Agencies with Legislative Responsibilities to Saskatchewan Agriculture

#### Special Purpose Funds Year End (Financial Statements are tabled separately)

Horned Cattle Fund .....	March 31
Livestock Services Revolving Fund .....	March 31
Pastures Revolving Fund .....	March 31
Individual Cattle Feeder Loan Guarantee Provincial Assurance Fund .....	March 31

#### Agencies (Annual Reports are published separately)

Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan .....	March 31
Agricultural Implements Board .....	March 31
Agri-Food Council .....	March 31
Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) .....	March 31
Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute .....	March 31
Saskatchewan Agricultural Stabilization Fund .....	March 31
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation .....	March 31
Crop Reinsurance Fund of Saskatchewan .....	March 31

#### Agencies under the Agri-Food Council

Canaryseed Development Commission of Saskatchewan  
Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan  
Saskatchewan Alfalfa Seed Producers Development Commission  
Saskatchewan Beekeepers Development Commission  
Saskatchewan Broiler Hatching Egg Producers' Marketing Board  
Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission  
Saskatchewan Egg Producers  
Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission  
Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission  
Saskatchewan Mustard Development Commission  
Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission  
Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board  
Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association  
Saskatchewan Milk Marketing Board  
Saskatchewan Turkey Producers' Marketing Board  
Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission  
Sheep Development Board  
Sask Pork



# Appendices

## Appendix E: Third-Party Funding

(\$000's)

### Industry Assistance Grants

#### Budgeted Industry Assistance Grants 3,083

Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture	100
Prairie Diagnostic Services Inc.	2,385
Saskatchewan 4-H Council Inc.	300
Budgeted grants \$50,000 and under	298

#### Miscellaneous Industry Assistance Grants 139

Miscellaneous grants \$50,000 and under	139
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#### Meat Processing Strategy (157)

For new and expanded slaughter and processing capacity in Saskatchewan. The Meat Processing Investment Rebate Program offered a 15 per cent rebate on construction costs for federally registered new plant construction or expansion. The rebate also applied to costs associated with a change of status from provincially regulated to federally registered status, or a move from federally registered status to European Union status. As originally planned, the program ended March 31, 2010. Activity in 2010-11 relates to the reversal of unused accruals from previous years.

#### Comprehensive Pest Control Program

Gopher Control Rebate Program - provides producers, RMs and First Nations bands with 50 percent reimbursement for eligible gopher control products. 502

Livestock Predation Program - support to hire experienced hunters and trappers to remove problem animals that cause livestock deaths such as coyotes and wild boar. 400

Black Fly Control Program - funding to purchase and apply chemicals to control the problems caused by black flies and the harm invoked on livestock in Northern Saskatchewan. 125

Fieldworker Program - support for the control of pests and diseases such as rats, perennial weeds, Hantavirus and Dutch Elm Disease. 1,200

Beaver Control Program - funding to support the removal of problem beavers in the province. 400

**Total Industry Assistance 5,692**

**Research and Technology Grants****Research and Development Grants****14,662**

Funding provided through a number of mechanisms including the Agriculture Development Fund to support research and development. Areas of focus include, but are not limited to: improved food quality and safety, decreased agricultural production risk, increased livestock competitiveness and the development of proprietary technology and know-how in novel applications.

**Strategic Research Programs****3,084**

Provides funding to cover the salaries of 15 Research Scientist/Technician teams at the University of Saskatchewan and the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute. The Program covers four broad research themes including crop genetic improvement, foods and bio-product development, soils/environment and livestock research.

**Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute****995**

Core funding is provided to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) which contributes to their mandate of assisting the agriculture industry through applied research, development and testing. PAMI focuses on farm equipment design, bio-energy and processing as well as livestock production and economics through their relationship with the Western Beef Development Centre.

**Ag-West Bio Inc.****400**

Agriculture contributes to Ag-West Bio Inc.'s focus on developing products derived from living organisms with market applications in agricultural, environmental, industrial, energy and bio-processing, and health and nutrition markets.

**Business Risk Management****269,023**

- Provides the Provincial contributions to the AgriStability and AgriInvest Programs.
- Provides Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation transition and implementation funding for Provincial delivery of the AgriStability Program.
- Provides the Provincial contributions to AgriRecovery Programs (Excess Moisture, Pasture Recovery Initiative and Feed and Forage)

**Crop Insurance****126,395**

Provides funding for the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) to administer insurance programs which protect grain and livestock producers from production failures due to natural hazards. SCIC also delivers programs which compensate producers for crop damage caused by big game and migratory waterfowl.

**Growing Forward****13,317**

Provides funding for the Federal contributions for non-BRM programs under the Growing Forward Framework Agreement with the Federal Government.

**Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program****2,790**

Cost of providing incentives to purchasers of leased crown land including a 10% discount from the sale price and favourable financing terms.

**Saskatchewan Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Fund****5,000**

Provides assistance to farmers and ranchers across the province to develop secure water supplies.

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## Appendices

### Appendix E: Third-Party Funding

#### Third Party Funding

( \$000's )

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##### Miscellaneous

Irrigation Branch - provides funding to Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation for non-district irrigation members.	35
Irrigation Branch - grant to the South Saskatchewan River Irrigation District for developing an infrastructure plan.	178
Lands Branch - provides compensation to RMs and Conservation and Development Authorities for tax levies on vacant patented Crown Land and for arrears owed on behalf of former Crown Land lessees.	59
Livestock Branch - grant to the Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in support of investigation of welfare complaints involving livestock.	320
Reversal of an unused accrual from previous years.	(285)
Short Term Hog Loan Program - provides for loss provisions on uncollectible loans.	6

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##### Total Third Party Funding

441,671

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# Appendices

## Appendix F - Regulatory Amendments

The 2010-11 regulatory agenda included:

### NEW REGULATIONS

#### *The Milk Marketing Plan Regulations*

- The regulations establish a Milk Marketing Board with the authority to administer the Milk Marketing Plan. These regulations are created under *The Agri-Food Act, 2004*.

#### *The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Regulations, 2010*

- The regulations repeal and replace *The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Regulations*, which allows for the 2010 Wildlife Damage Compensation Program to be finalized. These changes involve adding compensation for wild boar damage, adding compensation for eligible alternative livestock feeding systems and providing the Ministry of Agriculture with the authority to administer wildlife damage prevention measures which were previously the responsibility of the Ministry of Environment.

#### *The Canada-Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative Regulations, 2010*

- The regulations were required to implement the Canada-Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative announced May 31, 2010. The initiative provides a federal government contribution of \$11.76M and a Saskatchewan contribution of \$7.8M to the Program.

#### *The Excess Moisture Program Regulations*

- The regulations allow the Minister of Agriculture to establish the Excess Moisture Account (within the Saskatchewan Agricultural Stabilization Fund), and provide the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation with the authority to administer the Excess Moisture Program and Account.

#### *The Weed Control Regulations*

- The regulations relate to the repeal of *The Noxious Weeds Act* and the proclamation of *The Weed Control Act*. The new Act includes updating procedures related to the appeals process and also includes a maximum that a municipality can recover from a landowner for weed control measures.

### AMENDMENT REGULATIONS

#### *The Mustard Development Plan Regulations*

- The update to the regulations allows the Minister of Agriculture to repeal *The Saskatchewan Mustard Development Plan Regulations* and replace them with *The Mustard Development Plan Regulations*. The new regulations expand the definition of mustard, and bring the regulations in-line with other development plan regulations under *The Agri-Food Act, 2004*.

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*The Provincial Lands Amendment Regulations, 2010*

- The amendment to *The Provincial Lands Regulations* provides the Minister of Agriculture with greater flexibility in setting lease rates on agricultural crown land. The changes allow rental rates to be set based on either the formula within the regulations for the current year, the previous year, or the actual lease rates charged in the previous year. As a result, lower rates could be maintained in a period of low commodity prices in an effort to assist producers.

*The Gopher Control Rebate Amendment, 2010*

- The amendment allows the Minister of Agriculture to extend the Gopher Control Rebate Program, introduced in October 2008. The program provides producers, Rural Municipalities and Indian Bands with a 50 per cent rebate for spending on eligible gopher control products.

*The Domestic Game Farm Animal Amendment Regulations, 2010*

- The amendment to *The Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations* removes the requirement that domestic game farm operators pay the existing five-year licensing fees of \$150 or \$200.

*The Cattle Development Plan Amendment Regulations, 2010*

- The amendment provides the development commission (The Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association) with the authority to collect levies for the Cattle Development Plan, established under the regulations.

*The Canada-Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative Amendment Regulations, 2010*

- The amendment to *The Canada-Saskatchewan Pasture Recovery Initiative Regulations* was required to correct a printing error with the current version of the regulations, which resulted in two Rural Municipalities being omitted by mistake.

*The Crop Insurance Amendment Regulations, 2010 (No.2)*

- The amendment to *The Crop Insurance Regulations* allows the Minister of Agriculture to repeal two clauses under the regulations, as excess losses on new crops will now be paid out of the federal-provincial reinsurance program instead of the New Crops Insurance Account.

*The Wildlife Damage and Livestock Predation Regulations*

- The amendment to *The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Regulations, 2010* was required in order for the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) to introduce and administer the Livestock Predation Program. The Livestock Predation Program provides compensation to producers for livestock losses caused by wild animals.

*The Wildlife Damage and Livestock Predation Amendment Regulations, 2010*

- The amendment to *The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Regulations, 2010* expands the definition of "wildlife" to include any animal that has not been held in captivity. The change allows for compensation for damages caused to agricultural products by animals not specified in the existing regulations, such as beavers and blackbirds.

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*The Milk Marketing Plan Amendment Regulations, 2010*

- The amendment to *The Milk Marketing Plan Regulations* provides the Saskatchewan Milk Marketing Board with the authority to collect levies and function as a marketing board.

*The Livestock Inspection and Transportation Amendment Regulations, 2010*

- The amendment streamlines the livestock inspection process in low-risk situations and reduces costs within the Livestock Inspection Revolving Fund by eliminating the need for unnecessary inspections.

*The Brand Amendment Regulations 2011*

- The amendment broadens the range of livestock brands that can be approved, providing greater flexibility for the Ministry in approving unique methods of animal identification.

*The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program Regulations, 2011*

- The amendment extends the length of time by which eligible recipients under the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program through AgriRecovery must complete their projects.

*The 2009 Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program Amendment Regulations, 2011*

- The amendment allows irrigation districts to claim up to 90 per cent of eligible expenditures to a maximum of \$1.5M for infill projects.

*The Livestock Inspection and Transportation Amendment Regulations, 2011*

- The amendment increases the fee for mandatory livestock inspections from \$1.65 to \$1.80 per head. This fee had not been changed since 2002, and the updated fee better reflects the value of the inspection service.

*The Crop Insurance Amendment Regulations, 2011*

- The amendment modifies the calculations that determine the payment levels for both eligible cultivated and summerfallow acres. The indemnity payment per eligible claim acres that are too wet to seed increases from \$50 to \$70. The amendment also enhances the designated grade for field peas, which is consistent with changing market conditions. The amendment updated references to other regulations, and eliminated references to defunct regulations.

**REPEALED REGULATIONS**

*The Beef Railgrade Regulations*

*The New Crops Insurance Program Regulations*

*The Noxious Weeds Designation Regulations*

*The Beef Development Plan Regulations*



